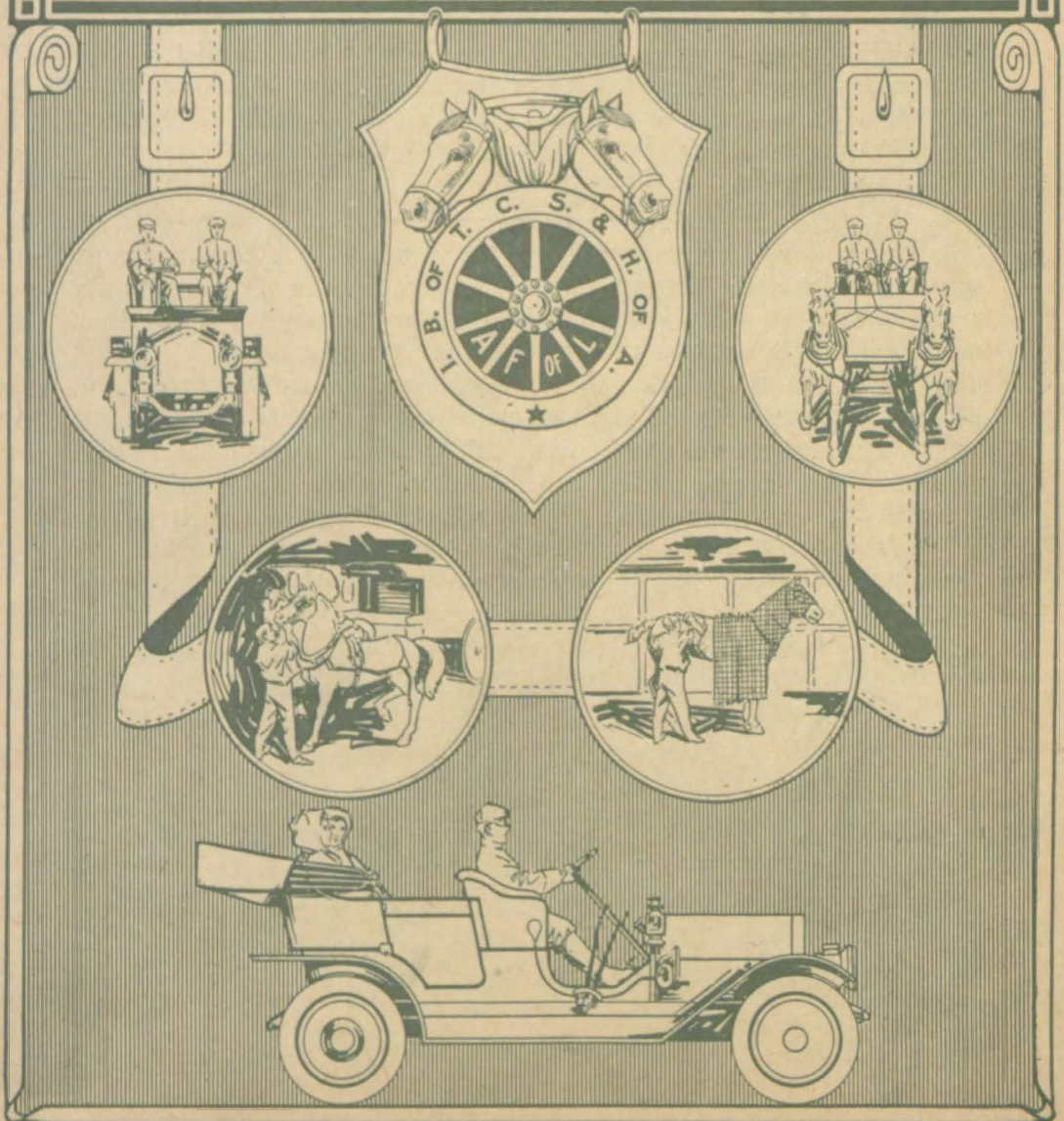


AUGUST, 1917

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
TEAMSTERS • CHAUFFEURS
STABLEMEN AND HELPERS
OF AMERICA



At this writing everything is looking favorable for a booming crop. Government reports are very encouraging on all crops. The cost of living should come down this winter. If the politicians in Washington would act at once on the bill giving the government control of food stuffs conditions would improve immediately.

Pretty soon the music will begin. Men will be drafted now almost any time. The rich idlers are already pulling all kinds of strings to get under cover. They are endeavoring to get in on some job where they will be exempt. We hear rumors that they are offering their services free to some of the ship-building companies and are looking for jobs in offices of coal mines, etc., as those employed at work of this kind are exempt. After the passage of the draft law quite a few of those rich idlers had business in Mexico and in South American countries. The poor, or the workers, must stick and do their share, and also the share of the slackers. But labor will keep its eyes open and if we find any juggling going on, there will be some roar that Washington won't forget very quickly.

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PATHETIC STORY of THE WAR



HE sky was a shining blue. The air was still. The warmth of summer brooded over the land. But no bird's song broke the stillness. No bees fluttered over flowers. The earth lay torn and bare. In deep brown furrows of the earth hundreds of restless men lay or knelt or stood.

The land was vibrant with living silence. But now and then a gigantic smashing roar broke the tense stillness. Then in some spots the ground spit forth masses of dirt, a soldier's helmet, a tattered rag of uniform, and bits of a human body.

It was after such a blast that a great winged object came speeding from the north. It skimmed low over the trenches and dipped, and circled and paused above the English line. Like a great eagle it seemed about to rush to earth, snatch its prey, and then be off. But as it hung suspended, another whirling monster flew from the south. It winged its way above its rival, then turning, plunged downward. The great cannons grew silent. The eyes of the pigmies in the trenches gazed skyward. A breathless tenseness gripped the earth. Only sun and sky shone on with no whisper of the mad fight of these two winged things.

For a few wild moments they rushed at one another. Then the bird with wings of white rose high, turned back, and plunged again upon the creature marked with huge, black crosses.

It missed its prey, but there came a cracking sound. A puff of smoke, like a hot breath, burst from the bird of the iron crosses. It shuddered, dropped, turned, and fell head down. With sweeping curves the pursuer also came to earth. A lean, young Englishman sprang from the whirring engine. His body quivered with excitement. He sped with running feet to the broken object lying on the ground. He knelt by the twisted mass. Beneath the splintered wood and iron he saw a boyish figure. It was still and motionless. He gently pulled the body out. A fair young German lay before him. A deep gash in the head showed where a blow had brought instant death. The body was straight and supple, the features clear cut and clean. A boy's face with frank and fearless brow looked up at the young Englishman. The eyes held no malice. They were full of shocked surprise. The brown-haired lad felt the lifeless heart. A piece of cardboard met his fingers. He pulled it from the coat pocket. It was a picture—a picture of a woman—a woman with gray hair and kindly eyes—a mother whose face was lined with patient suffering. Scrawled beneath the portrait in boyish hand were the words, "Meine Mutter."

A sob choked the young Englishman. Tenderly he gathered the lifeless form in his strong arms. Then he rose and walked unheeding across the open field of battle. But no angry bullets pelted after him. The men in the trenches saw and understood. Behind the lines the boy lay his burden down. Taking paper and pencil from his pocket and placing the little pic-

ture before him he began to write.

When he had finished he placed the letter and portrait in a carefully directed envelope. Then walking hurriedly to his machine he prepared for flight. Soon he was skimming low over the enemy trenches. Leaning out, he dropped his missile. The cannons roared, but no rifle was turned on that bright figure. Instinctively, men knew his deed was one of mercy. As the little paper fluttered downward it was picked up by eager soldier hands. A little cheer broke from a hundred throats. Willing messengers passed it to the rear. Speedily it went on its way.

Twenty-four hours later a mother with pale face and trembling hands fingered the white scrap of paper. Her unseeing eyes gazed out on a smiling landscape. Between green meadows in the warm summer sunshine lay the glittering Rhine. But she saw nothing. Her baby boy was dead. Memories of him flooded her. She felt again the warmth of the baby body as it clung to hers and the pull of the tiny hands at her breast. She saw him as a boy, his eager restlessness. She heard his running steps at the door and his cry of "mother." It was over. That bright spirit was still. The third and last son had been exacted. Her fingers touched the letter in her lap. Her eyes fell on the penciled words. Slowly they took meaning. This boy who wrote: He'd seen the beauty of her son. He'd held the dear body in his arms. His heart was torn by anguish. What was it he said:

"It's your son. I know you can't forgive me for I killed him. But I want you to know he didn't suffer. The end came quickly. He was very brave. He must also have been very good. He had your picture in his pocket. I am sending it back, though I should like to keep it. I suppose I am his enemy,

yet, I don't feel so at all. I'd give my life to have him back. I didn't think of him or you when I shot at his machine. He was an enemy spying out our men. I couldn't let him get back to tell his news. It meant death to our men. It was a plucky deed. We were covered up with brush. He had to come quite low to see us and he came bravely. He nearly escaped me. He handled his machine magnificently. I thought how I should like to fly with him. But he was the enemy and had to be destroyed. I fired. It was over in a second. Just a blow on the head as the machine crashed to earth. His face shows no suffering, only excitement. His eyes are bright and fearless. I know you must have loved him. My mother died when I was quite a little boy. But I know what she would have felt if I had been killed. War isn't fair to women. God! how I wish it were over. It is a nightmare. I feel if I just touched your boy he'd wake and we'd be friends. I know his body must be dear to you. I will take care of it and mark his grave with a little cross. After the war you may want to take him home.

"For the first time I'm almost glad my mother isn't living. She could not have borne what I have done. My own heart is heavy. I felt it was my duty. Yet now when I see your son lifeless before me and hold your picture in my hand, it all seems wrong. The world is dark. O Mother, be my mother just a little, too, and tell me what to do.—HUGH."

Slowly great tears rolled down the woman's cheeks. What was this monster that was smashing men? Her boy and this other, they were the same. No hate was in their hearts. They suffered—the whole world suffered. Her country went in hunger. The babies in the near-

by cottages grew weak for want of milk. She mustn't tell that to the English lad. His heart would break. Why must such suffering be? Was she to blame? There was the English lad without a mother. She had no thought of him and others like him. Her home, her sons, her Fatherland, these had been sufficient. But each life hangs on every other. Motherhood is universal. Suddenly she knew what to write, what she must say to that grief-stricken English boy. Quickly her hand penned the words:

"Dear Lad—There is nothing to forgive. I see you as you are—your troubled goodness. I feel you coming to me like a little boy astounded at having done ill when you meant well. You seem my son. I am glad your hands cared for my other boy. I had rather you than any other touched his earthly body. He was my youngest. I think you saw his fineness. I know the torture of your heart since you have slain him. To women, brotherhood is a reality. For all men are our sons. That makes war a monster that brother must slay brother. Yet perhaps women more than men have been to blame for this world war. We did not think of the world's children, our children. The baby hands that clutched our breasts were so sweet we forgot the hundred other baby hands stretched out to us. But the earth does not forget, she mothers all. And now my heart aches with repentance. I long to take you in my arms and lay your head upon my breast and make you feel through me your kinship with all the earth. Help me, son, I need you. Spread the dream of oneness and love throughout the world. When the war is over come to me. I am waiting for you.—Deine Mutter."
—Madeleine Z. Doty.

BOSTON SELF SEEKERS GIVEN TART ANSWER



WO members of the Boston branch, Equal Rights League, were given tart answer by Frank Morrison, secretary A. F. of L., in reply to their telegram to President Gompers, in which they charged "labor unionists" with committing the East St. Louis outrages against negroes and called on President Gompers to "declare your position."

President Gompers was in New York at the time and Secretary Morrison replied:

"Your attempt to secure publicity, regardless of facts, has evidently been noticed by Mr. Victor Olander, secretary-treasurer of the Illinois Federation of Labor, Chicago, who has just forwarded this telegram to President Gompers, which you will please consider my answer to your telegram to President Gompers:

"Press dispatches allege Negro Equal Rights League of Boston has telegraphed to you charging trade unionists with responsibility for East St. Louis riots. Any such charge is viciously untrue. It was the East St. Louis Central Labor Council, including locals having negroes in membership, that requested the investigations by the State Council of Defense following the disorders in May that investigations showed that southern negroes had been misled by false advertisements and unscrupulous employment agents to come to East St. Louis in such numbers that they could not secure either work nor decent living quarters. The effect was to make acute the exploitation of labor, both negro and white, and to seriously disarrange social as well as economic conditions and to arouse bitterness on all sides.

"The Chamber of Commerce

was urged by one of its own officers weeks ago to use its influence against the campaign of misrepresentation and false promises responsible for the influx, but the chamber took no action.

"It is shocking to me that such organizations as the alleged Negro Equal Rights League has little or nothing to say about the fraud practiced against negroes by unscrupulous employing interests, that such associations remain discreetly silent while southern negroes were cheated into leaving their homes for northern cities and towns already overcrowded, exhibit no concern regarding miserable living and working conditions which many negroes are forced to endure under such circumstances and offer no protest against vicious exploitation of labor through which blacks and whites suffer alike.

"The Illinois trade union movement is striving to organize the workers of both races. Many of our local unions have negro members, some exclusively, and negro delegates attend our conventions and central bodies, but I have not learned of a single instance here where such associations as the Negro Equal Rights League have aided or encouraged negro workers to join together for purpose of self-help in trade unions, to prevent exploitation, to secure recognition of economic rights, to obtain improvements in working conditions, shorter hours or better wages.

"On behalf of the Illinois State Federation of Labor and its entire membership of both races, I protest against the rank injustice of the charge alleged to have been made by the league, and I characterize that charge as unqualifiedly false and untrue.

"V. A. OLANDER,

"Secretary-Treasurer."

—Weekly News Letter.

SCIENTIFIC SAVAGERY



IF Germany is fairly represented by her present government — and that is a question for the people of Germany to answer—she is not fit to be trusted with the use of modern scientific forces. The bombardment of East London, that resulted in the cold-blooded murder of scores of women and children, is the crowning atrocity of this most atrocious war—with its submarine and aerial attacks on non-combatants—for which Germany is wholly and solely responsible. In the dispatches recently was this:

"For pure fiendishness of purpose and in the ghastly toll of innocent women, children and old men, Germany's air raid on London of yesterday was the most murderous of all the aerial piracy which England has seen."

Every man, woman or child that was killed in that infamous raid was deliberately murdered. And the murderer was the government that authorized and instituted this kind of warfare. But there was a refinement of cruelty in the process that still further serves to stamp the character of the war lords. For it is a fact that new "pain-making" missiles were used, and that many of those injured suffered frightfully from the acid fluids contained in the bombs. The hospitals were crowded with women and little children suffering from terrible burns inflicted by these hideous missiles. Of the ninety-seven killed, twenty-six were children, and sixteen women. Of the fifty-five men killed many were old and crippled. Ninety-four children, 122 women and 223 men were injured, many of whom died during the night. Words are inadequate to picture the horror of

this detestable crime. The simple story as told in the dispatches is more eloquent than any other language that could be used. Consider this:

"The bombing of a school house provided one of the most pitiable scenes of the whole raid. The bomb struck the roof squarely, cutting clean through and passing through two class rooms, one above the other, killing some children, but sparing the majority. It finally exploded with terrific force in a room on the ground floor where there were sixty-four little children from five to seven years of age. Ten of these were killed outright, and all the others more or less injured. The room was thirty-six by twenty-four, and the force of the explosion in such a confined area was naturally terrific. A basin-shaped hole several feet deep was made in the floor. Most of the ceiling was brought down and the furniture scattered into splinters. Arms and legs were torn off some of the children; others were shockingly lacerated, some stunned and others buried in the wreckage. The room was filled with the screams and moans of the tiny sufferers, many of whom were crying distractedly for their mothers. Helpers who rushed in from the outside found four women teachers, wonderfully self-possessed, although covered with blood, giving what help was possible to their little charges and trying to calm those who were only slightly hurt. Many of the children were lying limp and helpless across the shattered desks, bleeding from terrible wounds. Others were writhing in pain and some bodies were unrecognizable."

We commend this specimen of "kultur" to those everywhere who are still pro-German, and who see nothing but good in the present

German government. But the day of vengeance will come. These murders of the London poor were—and let us never forget it—results of the kind of warfare approved by the kaiser and his general staff.

No wonder the people of Germany were not informed of the details of this attack. All that the

official Berlin statement reported was that "a fleet of our large airplanes bombed the port of London."

The grass will be green for many a year on the graves of the little children of that London school before this "bombing of the port" ceases to resound in the ears of mankind.—Indianapolis News.

EARLY WAR LESSONS



WAR has proved to be an industrial proposition as well as a military proposition, and American industry will be obliged to compete after the war is over with highly centralized methods of industry. Rigors of conflict have caused the warring nations to practice intense economy, and in doing so to introduce greater industrial civilization. In spite of the plans and prerogatives of kings and kaisers, democracy in Europe will greatly develop in the years to follow in just settlement of the great European conflict. The nations abroad are perforce being taught collective purchasing, have standardized industries and government co-operation in business forced upon them entirely out of the range of thought of the greatest prophet among them before the great conflict began. They have been taught perforce it is true, but nevertheless taught to eliminate waste. However meagerly their working and poor people lived before the war they have been taught saving in foods and clothing. The scrap heap has almost been if not entirely eliminated, for even scraps of metal of any kind have been conserved and put to such uses as were never before even believed conceivable. People who have been recently on the continent of Europe, on

returning to the United States promptly remark on the number of things we have on the table, even although the high cost of living is affecting all neutral nations as well as those at war.

It would be well for our people to take a lesson from those enforced studies on the continent of Europe, for while the countries at war have been learning the art of saving, Americans have continued to practice the art of spending. The scrap heap is yet in plentiful evidence near factories, and it would not be out of the range of possibilities to find at the end of the great conflict in Europe that the spenders are principally in America, while the savers are principally in Europe. The cost of living among us, even here where we are not feeling the same pinch of the war game as they are in Europe, should be a great lesson as well as a great warning to us. The increased cost of such ordinary food products as wheat and potatoes supply perhaps the first if not the greatest lesson. Waste lands and even garden patches here and there should be made to produce their share of wheat, corn or potatoes, so that there being a plentiful supply of same the price as regulated by the speculators will be held down safely to within the reach of consumers' needs and means.

We must all get away from the

idea that to be thrifty indicates meanness. It is not merely a cultivation of the saving spirit, it is undertaking to live economically, plentifully, and to make good use of opportunities as well as of products. When people make up their minds that extravagance in any direction is entirely wrong, it is not so difficult for them to conclude that wasting is not a virtue, and

when the minds of the people run in that direction, making both ends meet both economically and well will correspondingly appear to them to be among the greatest of domestic virtues. All told, it may be difficult to find, as a result of the great European war, that extravagance either in domestic or in public affairs can in any way be considered a national virtue.

ECONOMY THE WATCHWORD



UCH has been said on the subject of economy since the beginning of the war.

Some have advocated that every citizen organize his living along lines of rigid economy. No sooner was this idea set forth than others declared that we must not radically change our mode of living lest we unsettle the industrial and commercial world. They pointed out the fact that nothing is so sensitive as the credit organization of business and that sudden changes in national mode of living would react disastrously. This latter advice seemed a bit ironical to the great masses of the nation who are wage earners and who compared the swiftly-rising prices with their almost stationary wages.

Out of the discussion there developed this fact—the nation is preparing itself for the greatest test it has ever endured; it is stripping itself for the fight and like an athlete getting into training to develop hard sinews of endurance. Weak places are disclosed that they may be eliminated. The whole process must go on under rigid, scientific principles. We must know the truth of our weakness in order to achieve our greatest strength. So our nation is passing through a period of shift-

ing values and changing economies. The purpose is to eliminate the waste and to make everything count for national effectiveness.

As a nation we must get rid of those qualities and customs that are associated with soft living in the times of peace and national luxury. We must develop endurance, power, spiritual insight and creative ability. With this changing of values there must come a readjustment in the commercial and industrial world. Occupations and industries may for a time disappear completely and new ones be developed to meet war necessities.

The guiding thought of new economies will be the elimination of waste and the enhancement of effectiveness. Our economic, social and political institutions as they existed in peace times were loosely co-ordinated and widely differentiated.

In order to meet war needs and serve war purposes these must be co-ordinated and unified. The spirit and purpose of the whole nation must be unified. In a democratic people this cannot be accomplished by compulsion, but it must come through the voluntary response of every citizen. In each household there must develop the purpose to adjust the household economy to the national economy. The elimination of waste in the household will contribute to the

elimination of national waste. Waste here refers not only to the material things, but to the spiritual and creative abilities of the members of the household. No one must be a waster or a shirker; the effort must be a genuine one and not a pretense.

Among certain families has been inaugurated with striking publicity a conspicuous program of economy featured by a three-course dinner. With the accounts of this conspicuous economy, enumerating the articles comprising the menu, the whole sham was disclosed. It was a mockery to

those thousands of families who must live in most rigid economy in order to make ends meet.

The war must be won by genuine efforts based upon the right principles. It is of no advantage, nor does it further our purpose, to deceive ourselves or try to deceive our neighbors; every effort must be genuine and must be intelligently directed to further the best interests of the whole people. Personal interests and personal activities must be subordinated to national welfare.—American Federationist.

THE HUMAN ELEMENT



THE public mind gradually, though all too slowly, is veering around favorable to the great questions of first, and real human interests as advocated by organized labor. Some lawyers and even a few judges are now seeing the light. The U. S. House of Representatives and the Senate have been seeing it for some time, and popular legislative bodies have also given evidence of favoring more humane legislation. The President has shown the way and the governors of a number of States, although of differing persuasion, are falling in line. It is a subject of regret that in a number of instances our great colleges and universities, with chambers of commerce, certain manufacturers' associations and, of course, those whose minds are permeated with the militarist question, are generally against us. The trend of events, however, is encouraging to the representatives of organized labor who have been and will continue to be leaders in thought for improvement of human interests.

This subject generally calls to mind an old proverb to the effect that the temptation for a ruling caste to abuse its power is well nigh overwhelming. Another old proverb tells us that no ruling caste was ever permanently proof against the temptation to betray its stewardship.

The old caste is giving way to democracy, and when the people rule, the word "caste" could not apply to them, consequently its use in these old proverbs has reference to militarist or aristocratic regimes, perhaps both.

The trend of the times brings to mind a statement by the great Gladstone during the summit of fifty years in British public life when in a most memorable speech in Edinburgh in 1892, he said something even more severe than those proverbs expressed, namely: "I painfully reflect that in almost every one, if not every one of the great political controversies of the last fifty years, whether they affect the franchise, commerce, religion, slavery, or whatever subject they touch, these leisured classes, these educated classes, these wealthy

(Continued on Page 14.)

EDITORIAL

(By Daniel J. Tobin.)

THE trend of the actions of our government at the present time seems to be preparation for a long-continued war. All indications point to a continuation of the conflict for two or three years to come. Our country will not be actually prepared to fight until next spring, although we will undoubtedly have men on the fighting line long before then. The registration of men between the ages of 21 and 31 shows that nearly ten million men have registered. Out of this number it is believed that five million will be eligible for service. About one year from now we will, perhaps, have an army of 1,500,000 men fighting in Europe. England and the United States will have to do most of the fighting. France has given up almost all she has and is almost worn out insofar as men are concerned. Russia will not be reorganized or be in a position to do any great fighting for at least two years. England has about five million men now under arms. Conditions at this time point to a long struggle although at any time sudden changes may take place. But our nation can not escape as it looks today without offering up the blood of hundreds of thousands of our men. We will also be called upon to finance the war and to help support the countries with whom we are allied. As time goes on this work will become more severe. Maintaining our own large army on a foreign field will be no small problem, but in addition to this we will be called upon to help to feed, to clothe and to equip the other armies because the countries engaged in the war with us have been taxed to their utmost during the past two or three years. But even with all this we are sure to be victorious in the end. Conditions look better now than they did a short time ago. The submarine warfare with which Germany expected to clean up her enemies is not quite as severe as it was a short time ago. It is on the wane. They have not gained in this particular point and as time goes on this menace will be reduced.

Every man and woman in our country must be loyal to our government during this crisis, which is, perhaps, the most trying experience that this country has ever been confronted with. It is even more trying and a great deal more fearful than the Civil war, or the war of the Revolution because we are threatened by an enemy whose cruelties and persecutions have never been equaled in the history of the world. In the days of the Revolution English officers and soldiers refused to murder in cold blood neutrals or persons not taking part in the war. No civilized nation has attempted to slaughter innocent women and children until the German nation introduced this cruelty into the present war, so that while we do not intend to recite here what has been done, our membership must understand it because they read of it every day, but it can not be denied that the conflict in which we are now engaged is the most serious, the most tremendous and the most trying conflict that our nation has ever taken part in. This country refrained from entering into the war until there was no possible chance to stay out of it any longer. The President of the United States did everything that human nature could possibly do in order to save our country from participating in this slaughter, but to no avail. Therefore, now that we are in it, now that we have been

forced into it, all men and women in this country should stand loyally by the government, and those who do not do this should be imprisoned. There is an element in the middle western cities of our country, of German extraction, many of them born in this country, who are undoubtedly favoring the enemies of our nation. This is a crime that should not be overlooked or lightly dealt with by our government. Recently in Indianapolis two business men, both born in this country of German parentage, used all kinds of vile language against the President of the United States and against our government while drinking in a saloon. The matter was reported to the police and the men were arrested. They were tried and one was discharged the next day. The other man admitted making the statements but offered as an excuse that he did not know what he was saying. The judge took his case under advisement and after a few days discharged him. This, in our judgment, is placing a premium on treason or disloyalty to the nation. There are hundreds of instances of the same kind in this country. There can be no greater crime at this particular time than disloyalty of this kind because it endangers the very foundation of our government. In the same issue of the paper we read where two members of the clay workers' union were sentenced to imprisonment for violating an injunction—those two loyal, American citizens who would give their life's blood for the freedom of the nation were sent to prison, while two traitors, because they had some influence, were allowed to escape. This is the kind of justice that makes men despise courts and so-called tribunals of justice. It makes one feel sometimes that justice in some of our courts is a mockery. However, to get back to our subject, is it not almost impossible to understand how men, born in this country, whose parents, because of persecutions, were driven from Germany, whose parents came to this country as persecuted immigrants; that those men today who are the children of those persecuted parents, who in this country have been given freedom, education and a standing in the community, who have made their money under our form of government and are responsible business men—is it not, as I have said before, an utter impossibility to understand how they can be traitors to this country and to this government that has done so much for them, and pledge their loyalty, secretly, to Germany, whose form of autocratic government forced their parents into exile? Such a condition is hard to understand, still this condition prevails. Facts speak for themselves. In many cities in the middle West there are numerous individuals of this kind. In no other country would such a condition be allowed to prevail. Those men, in any other country, would be incarcerated, perhaps, put to death for treason against the nation in which they held citizenship. But our country is so lenient in some instances and so cruel in others, that it sometimes causes one to wonder why those men who have charge of affairs—our government officials—who are striving strenuously to lead us on to victory, permit such a condition to exist.

It is, indeed, unnecessary to request the membership of our organization to prove their loyalty, to express their fealty to the government on every occasion that presents itself to us, but in order to shame the other fellow, every chance you get show that you are a real American. Every time the national anthem is being played if sitting, arise and honor your country as an American. Respect the flag of the nation and prove to be the same kind of a faithful American now that you have always been. This is the time of trial. The Englishmen and Frenchmen

have given their blood willingly for their country, and there was never any nation that had anything on America when it comes to real patriotism. Refuse to associate with any individual whose opinions are un-American or whose words are directed against our government. We hate and we despise any doctrine that teaches or leads to bigotry in anything, but this is a time when, for our own salvation, we must all be real Americans.

When sending in your wage scale to be approved by the General President, kindly write a few lines with it and explain to us what the difference is in the new wage scale and your old wage scale. Also let us know what chance you have of getting your wage scale signed. Give us, in this office, some information about the conditions in your district. The drafting and presentation of a wage scale and its approval by the general office is an important event in the life of the local union. It may be necessary to strike to enforce conditions. Therefore, we demand that we be informed as to the surroundings of the union and the difference in the new wage scale over the old one. Also remember that the constitution states that a copy of the wage scale must be submitted to the General President for approval thirty days before the wage scale is presented to the employers. Many local unions are overlooking this clause. They wait until the last minute to get their wage scale ready. This should not be the case. If there is any one thing more disappointing than another it is to receive an envelope with the wage scale on the inside and not one word of explanation. If you expect the International to help you out, kindly do your share of the work.

THERE never was anything gained by trimming. The fellow who does an honest day's work is the man who gets ahead. Sure, you may loiter and loaf, and kill time here and there, and bluff the boss by saying you were held up here or there, but how long can you do it before he gets wise? Don't make any mistake about it (as Casey says) he will soon get on to your little game and when he does out you go. Well, perhaps you can get another job, but the second boss will soon find you out, also, and out you go again. Then you will go to the business agent and tell your tale of woe and, of course, you don't forget to mention that you were fired because you were such a good union man, and it is a shame because so many suckers up where you worked stand for anything, although they are the best men in town. Of course you add that you are a charter member of the union and worked hard to build it up; although the agent knows you were reinstated several times and would never pay your dues unless you had to. This is the kind of so-called union man that pulls the unions down. They give the agent and every one else the horrors. They give a good union man the chills. There are, however, only a few of them left, as we are weeding them out as fast as we can, but every now and then some cheap, shyster boss will hire one of those lazy, good-for-nothing gentlemen, and they come down to union headquarters, and, not knowing them we admit them into the union because they are working for some employer and our agreement compels us to take them in. After a while they get fired and then some other employer wonders why we have them in the union. We don't bring those birds into the union, the bosses are responsible for that. We can't get rid of them, they hang on like a bad cold. The union despises a man of

this kind. There is nothing more disgusting to the business agent than this kind of a man, or the man who is discharged for being intoxicated. We are not preaching prohibition, but if there is anything that disgusts a business agent more than anything else, it is to have to go to the employer to reinstate men of this kind. The agent does it sometimes for the family of the individual, but, oh, how he loves his job. No, gentlemen of the employing class, we don't want this kind of a man in our union. We want to get rid of him, and we have very, very few of them left. You hire them without looking them up, or, perhaps for a dollar or two less than the scale, and, of course, we must take them into the union, believing you would hire only a "perfect man." So there you are! What are you going to do? Quit hiring them.

SOME people imagine the world would stand still only for their individual influence. There are some members in unions that would have you believe they are the chosen few who do all—everything—so that the union may run, when, as a matter of fact, the union would be much better off without them. Brothers, get this into your heads as soon as possible, that the union will run (and perhaps run better) when we have all passed away. There is no one of us but what the union can get along without. It would be a poor union that depended on one or two members for its existence, so, you don't own the union—it belongs to all members who pay their dues. Of course, it is your duty and my duty to do our share of the work and not leave it all to the other fellow, but we are not bosses of the union by any means. We are bound to protect the union against wrong doers. We, as men, must see to it that the union is run for the benefit of the membership; that its moneys are properly accounted for, etc., so that we may be able to hand over to those who come after us a better union than we received from those who preceded us. No, the days of union bosses are passed and gone forever, insofar as our International is concerned. No one now can peddle the union, or browbeat the membership, and no one man in the union can do as he pleases with the members or the funds. We had some of these so-called leaders at one time in our organization. You remember them, but they are gone, never to return. Too bad. Some of them had brains if they had only used them properly and exercised them honestly. I wonder if they did have brains? They themselves and others thought they had, but they did not, because any man or set of men with brains should know that they could not fool and betray the membership and get away with it. It simply can't be done. They fooled themselves and no one else. You have to play square if you want to stick in the labor movement, either as a member, local officer, or an International officer. So get wise, all you fellows who know it all. Get this into your cranium—the only way to win is to be honest with your union and faithful to your friends. Work hard for your union, observe your obligation to help a brother, be charitable with the fellow who through no fault of his own, has fallen down. By doing this you will remain a respected member of your union when all the smart Alecks have passed away. Refresh your memory once more, you old boys, by looking back over the years since 1903, and ask yourself, where are all the wonderful world-beaters we had with us then, and then ask yourself again why are they gone and who is to blame for their absence? Give the answer to your members at the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE



CHICAGO, ILL.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—I wish to state to you the success we had in getting our contract signed for two years. We have obtained an increase of \$2.00 per week, to be paid for the first time next Saturday to all the drivers, helpers and chauffeurs of the Chicago Grease Teamsters, Helpers and Chauffeurs' Union No. 735. Now, Brother Tobin, this is an increase to the brother members in this local of \$4.00 per week in one year's time, and as it has been brought about without a strike or creating any ill feeling between the employers and our organization, I feel that we are gradually showing both employers and employes that there is a benefit in dealing through our organization.

I hope that this will meet with your approval and I feel this letter should be published in our Magazine. Fraternalty yours,

RUD SCHULTZ,

Business Agent Local 735.

PORTLAND, MAINE

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—No doubt there are many readers of the Journal thinking and wondering how many men have been called from the I. B. of T., C., S. & H. to serve the cause. At the present writing we have lost only seven.

Since I last wrote for the Journal every member in our local has received an increase in wages. The men who carry and trim coal arranged an agreement and a committee was appointed that waited

on a committee from the coal dealers and they agreed to our scale. A short time afterward a bonus was given the drivers, stablemen and chauffeurs and men about the wharves.

The trustees have made their quarterly report and found the local in a fine condition. But there is a large amount of work to be done yet. At a recent meeting of our local a committee was appointed to prepare for Labor Day.

On June 27 we had our first field day and outing, which proved one grand success. Base ball and different games were indulged in. The members were taken in autos to Old Orchard Beach, which is a famous summer resort. Dinner was given at one of the popular cafes and from there the members went to Riverton Park, which is an open air theater ten miles from the city, where lunch was served. The singing club of the local rendered some nice music during the entire trip and the committee may well feel proud of its work. In the near future a campaign for new members is to be started.

Fraternalty yours,

WALTER S. JOHNSON,

L. U. No. 418.

PUEBLO, COLO.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—I am writing you a few lines for publication in our Journal, as I would like for our brother members throughout the country to know that Local No. 453 is making some progress this summer. We have taken in forty-five new members and hope to take in more during this month. We hope in the near

future to increase our membership to 150.

Wishing the organization success during the year, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

F. F. McGUIRK,

Sec.-Treas. L. U. 453.

GRANITE CITY, ILL.

Mr. D. J. Tobin, Indianapolis, Ind.:

Dear Sir and Brother—I wish to state to you that the strike in Granite City was avoided by the bosses all signing up. They signed our agreement for two years with an increase in pay from \$3.00 to \$4.50 per week.

I also wish to say in this letter, which I would like to have published in the Magazine, that one of our oldest members, Charles Brown, started in to scab on our local, but he has been run out of town.

Wishing our union success, I am,

Fraternally yours,

M. C. GRADY,

Business Agent L. U. No. 61.

THE HUMAN ELEMENT

(Continued from Page 8.)

classes, these titled classes have been in the wrong."

Thus history keeps on repeating itself. Perhaps we would be better off if about two-thirds of our old and antiquated laws and interferences with our freedom were revoked and a new school of legal thought inaugurated and followed, dominant in which would be due regard for the rights of all, giving persons in their relationship to each other first consideration and thereafter doing ample justice to the protection and care of property rights.

The trend is in the right direction, and by all giving a boost instead of here and there a veritable and unwarranted knock, greater progress toward better times for

the human family will be in evidence.—Granite Worker.

SCHOOL TEACHERS WAKING UP

Organization among the school teachers of the country, with a trend toward trade-union principles, is one of the most remarkable signs of the times. Of all the important groups of workers in the country teachers in the past appeared to be the last to recognize that only by getting together can anything be accomplished. The average annual salary of public school teachers in the United States is given as \$458.51 for women and \$616.93 for men. Contrast these figures with \$1,041.18, the average yearly earnings of members of the International Typographical Union for the year ending May 31, 1916. In many localities the teachers are waking up and beginning to feel the urgent need of a strong union. No one can fight the teachers' battles except the teachers, and when they realize that they cannot look to the superintendent or principal or to the school board for improvement of their condition, then they will be ready and willing for organization.

One trouble of those who talk about the partnership between capital and labor is their lack of knowledge of how the partnership is conducted by those who control capital. It may be a partnership of a certain kind, but where capital makes all of the rules and insists that this is its right inasmuch as it owns the capital, and labor is forced to accept these rules without question, the quality of the partnership established is not calculated to give satisfactory dividends to those who toil for wages and who constitute by far the majority in this so-called partnership.—Molders' Journal.

MISCELLANY



DECENT WAGES SHOULD BE PAID

There is plenty of labor if proper wages are paid and proper housing conditions furnished, says State Commissioner of Labor McLaughlin of California, who declares that the hysteria of chambers of commerce and certain farming interests is not supported by an analysis of the facts.

"The cry for farm labor," he says, "from the various farm districts is based largely upon the selfish desire of each community to secure to itself an excess supply of labor in order to make an abundant supply available at the time it will be required. If the number of farm laborers asked for by the various counties were totaled the aggregate would run into hundreds of thousands of men, in addition to the regular supply, which, on its very face, would be absurd, as California has not the acreage under cultivation for such a number of farm laborers, nor have we reason to believe that the acreage under cultivation has been greatly increased.

"It must be remembered that the crops of California do not all ripen at the same time. In fact, the season extends over the entire year, and the men employed in one county one month may be working in another county the next month.

"In the case of wages on farms, we find that most of the farmers today are only offering the same wages as were paid fifteen or twenty years ago. The experience of the public employment bureau has shown that wherever a farmer offers a proper wage for labor there is no difficulty in filling the jobs. A man cannot be expected

to do farm work at 15 cents an hour when he can obtain 25 cents and 30 cents in other employments under better working conditions.

"The housing and living conditions for farm laborers on farms in California are abominable. This state of affairs is now generally recognized. Only a few of the large ranches furnish living accommodations for their labor. The man applying for work is obliged to use the hay stack or the ground for a bed and do his own cooking. Investigations of the bureau showed that over 60 per cent. of farm laborers were not furnished board."

Commissioner of Labor McLaughlin declared that the employers who are making the loudest cry regarding the shortage of labor are the ones who want an adequate supply of labor at the former low-wage rates. The State officials said that we should use the supply of labor at hand and correct present conditions before we even considered the importation of foreign labor.

"The employers who are willing to pay the wages now demanded by labor by reason of the increased cost of living, find on difficulty in obtaining the necessary supply," he said.

WHEAT AND FLOUR DOWN, BUT BREAD "NOTHING DOING"

Since May 14 last wheat prices have dropped nearly \$1.00 per bushel, and the cost of flour has gone down \$2.50 a barrel, which, in a measure, is due to the closing down of the wheat pit in Chicago, and the realization on the part of the wheat gamblers and wheat

speculators generally that in their systematic robbery of the people under the pretext of war conditions, patriotism, etc., etc., they had about reached the danger point—had almost arrived at the limit of the public's toleration.

But of what avail to the poverty-stricken millions in the United States is this reduction in the cost of wheat? They are still paying the maximum price for bread—the price which they were told was necessary because of wheat being so high. As speculators raised wheat prices, the price of bread went up. The 5-cent loaf was gradually advanced until now it is selling for 10 cents, and the 10-cent loaf now costs 15 cents, and at that in most cases the size of the loaf has been reduced.

In March wheat was selling at \$1.97 per bushel and it gradually raised, until May 14 the price had reached \$3.43 per bushel. On June 21 it had gone down to \$2.45 per bushel. The fall in price began May 14, when the Chicago Board of Trade announced stringent restrictions on gambling in wheat for future delivery. As wheat prices began to soar the cost of bread went upward and the maximum it reached is still maintained notwithstanding that the price of flour has been reduced, the wholesale price at Minneapolis on June 22 being \$13.25 per barrel. There is, therefore, no good excuse for maintaining the present extortionate price for bread. The only reason it is maintained is because the middle man can rob the consumer with impunity, and that there is a trust understanding—a "gentleman's agreement"—in the matter of maintaining these prices is but too clear. How long will it be tolerated?

The indications are that because of the abundant wheat crops in the United States and Canada, the re-

cent reduction at Minneapolis is but the beginning of a big decline in flour cost. Hence, the people should not be content until bread has again reached the normal price—the price at which it was sold before the greed craze for war profits caused it to advance.

HOW TO MEET WAR COSTS

In a letter to members of the four railroad brotherhoods, signed by the executives of these organizations, it is suggested that the train service men of this country urge their national representatives to meet war costs by having the necessary tax placed upon the incomes of corporations that are making enormous profits because of the war.

"We do not believe in making any law confiscatory," it is stated, "but we are opposed to conscripting the workingmen under the selective draft which conscripts his income as well and at the same time increases the tax on the cost of the necessities of life, and then, if he should live to return from his service in the field or navy, he and his children for the next hundred years must bear the burden of the costs of the war.

"We feel we are quite within our rights when we insist that the other fellow that finances the enterprises come under the authority of the government and do his bit. If we give our lives it seems reasonable that he be made to give his treasure. It is not meant that he be robbed any more than it is intended that every workman be taken to the firing line, but it is expected that his profits will not continue to be an unnecessary burden on the back of the man who is doing the fighting."—Weekly News Letter.

Local Union No. 470 of Philadelphia, has just signed up its agreement, obtaining an increase of \$3.00 per week for doubles and \$2.00 per week for singles. All members of the union are pleased with the agreement. After getting this increase the local voted to raise the dues of the organization to \$1.00 per month. Organizer Ashton worked with the local officers on the agreement and assisted in every way possible to adjust matters so that serious trouble of any kind might not arise.

At the well-attended picnic of Local No. 553, Coal Teamsters of New York, held on July 7, Brother Michael Cashal was presented with a beautiful gold watch, chain and appropriate charm, as a token of appreciation from the membership for the splendid services he has for years rendered that union, of which he has been secretary-treasurer for several years. When Mike took the position of Secretary-Treasurer, the local was up against the wall, having been robbed by its previous secretary. But, through the efforts of Brother Cashal and a few others, the local is today one of the finest affiliated with the International, with a splendid treasury, and a closed or union-shop agreement. I guess no one grudges Mike the small token given to him. He surely deserves all the respect the teamsters and chauffeurs of New York may give him. He never looks for himself, but is always trying to do some good for our membership in that district and conditions there testify to the fact that he has done something. Brother William Ashton made the presentation. All we can say is that we hope he may live long to wear the watch.

Official Magazine
of the
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of Teamsters, Chauffeurs
Stablemen *and* Helpers
of *America*

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